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C.G.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant (s): Hatakeda et al.

Serial No.: 10/087,560

Group Art Unit: 2674

Filed: February 28, 2002

Examiner: Abdulsalam, Abbas I

For: NEWTON RING PREVENTION FILM AND TOUCH PANEL

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Technology Center 2600

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE On October 26, 2004 DATE OF DEPOSIT Gary C. Cohn PRINT OR TYPE NAME OF PERSON SIGNING CERTIFICATE SIGNATURE OF PERSON SIGNING CERTIFICATE October 26, 2004
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Hon. Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks

Sir:

RESPONSE B

In response to the office action of May 26, 2004, the examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application in view of the following remarks.

REMARKS

Regarding the Rejection of Claims 4-7 over Fujii et al. in view of Murata et al.

The examiner is once again asked to reconsider the rejection of claims 4-7 over U. S. Patent No. 6,611,229 to Fujii et al. in view of U. S. Patent No. 6,261,665 to Murata et al. Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection a) relies on hindsight, b) improperly combines references that relate to different types of structures and c) ignores evidence of unexpected results that are obtained with this invention.

1. The invention

The invention of claims 4-7 is a touch panel that, when operated, exhibits little or no Newton ring effect when depressed, while retaining good insulating properties. The touch panel includes upper and lower transparent electrodes that are spaced apart by some